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# **endura**CUT<sup>TM</sup>

advanced cutting plotters



**USER GUIDE**

**SIGNWarehouse**.com<sup>®</sup>

**NOTICE**

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# Important Information

Thank you for purchasing the ***Vinyl Express Enduracut Cutting Plotter***.

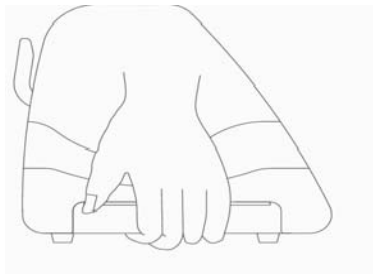
Before you use the cutting plotter, please make sure that you have read the Safety instructions and precautions below.



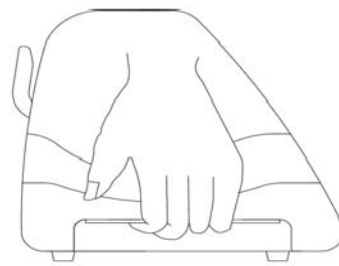
Caution

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS!

- For safety concern, please always hold the cutter firmly **from the bottom** while moving it. Do not move the cutter by clasping the depression area on both sides.



O (correct)



X (Incorrect)

- Do not shake or drop the blade holder, a blade tip can fly out.
- During an operation, do not touch any of the moving parts of this machine (such as the carriage). Also be careful to make sure that clothing and hair do not get caught.
- Always connect the power cable to a grounded outlet.
- Always use the accessory power cable which is provided. Do not wire the power cable so that it becomes bent or caught between objects.
- Do not connect the power cable to branching outlet to which other machines are also connected, or use an extension cable. There is danger of overheating and of mis-operation of the machine.
- Keep the tools away from children where they can reach.
- Always put the pinch rollers within the white marks.

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Important Information

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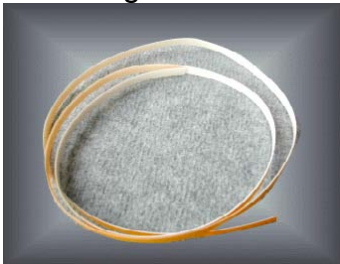





## **Appendix**

- I Enduracut Specification A-I

# 1. General Information

## 1.1 Package Items

The package of Enduracut-60 contents the items listed below, please check carefully. If you find any item missing, please consult your local dealer for further assistance.

Item	Quantity	
Cutting Plotter	1 Set	
Accessories	1 Set	
1. Cutting Pad	2. AC Power Cord	3. Desktop Support Brackets
		
7. Tweezers	5. Paper Slitter	6. RS-232 Cable
		

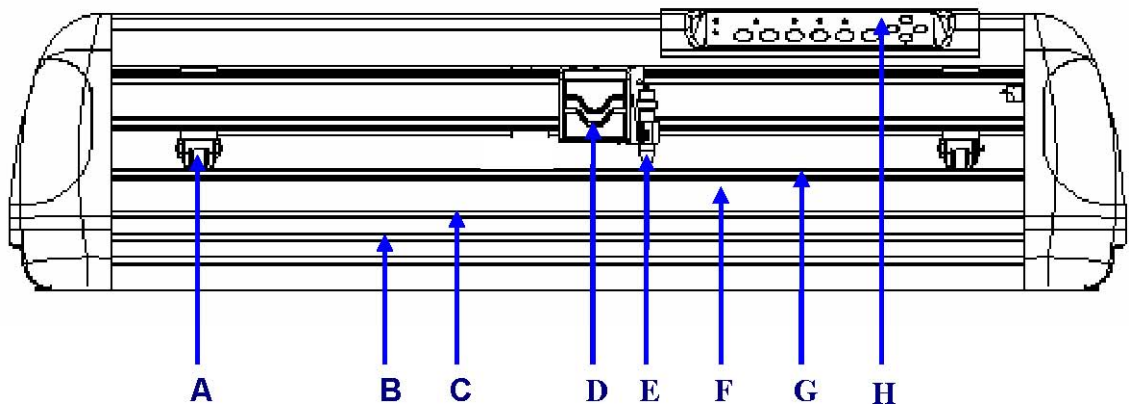
## 1.2 Product Features

The followings are the main features of the Enduracut cutting plotters:

- Serial interface.
- Up to 250-grams cutting force.
- Up to 400 mm/per second cutting speed.

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**1.3 The Appearance (Enduracut)**

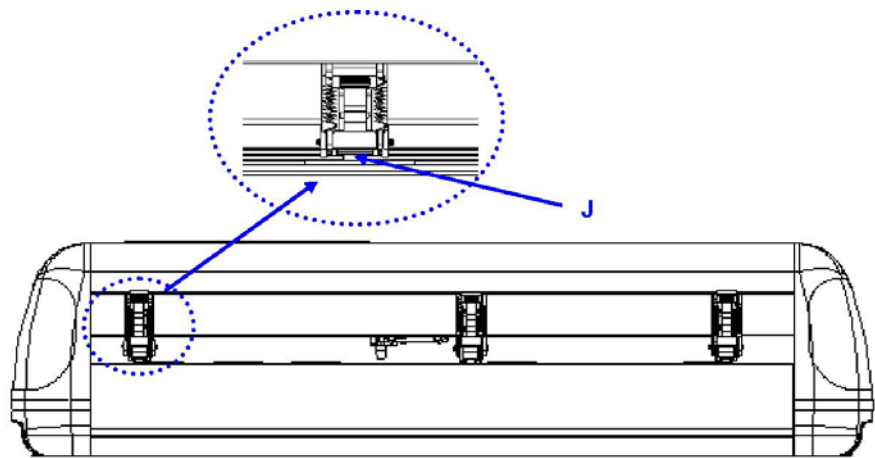
**1.3.1 The Front View**



**[Figure 1-1 ]**

Object	Description
<b>A</b> Primary Pinch Roller	To help hold the media during cutting.
<b>B</b> Slicing Groove	To help slice off media..
<b>C</b> Alignment Ruler	To align media with clear guideline marks
<b>D</b> Tool Carriage	To help perform cutting job with installed blade or pen.
<b>E</b> Blade Holder	To hold the blade.
<b>F</b> Platen	The surface for holding and supporting media while in operation.
<b>G</b> Cutting Pad	To protect blade and plate in operation.
<b>H</b> Control Panel	Consist of 10 control keys and 6 LED lights.

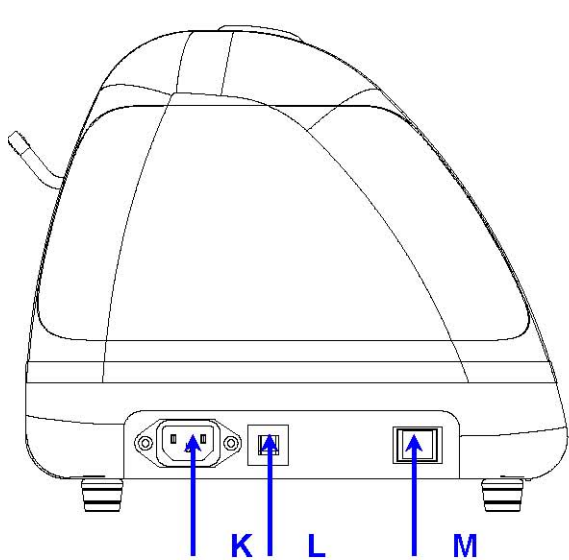
1.3.2 The Back View



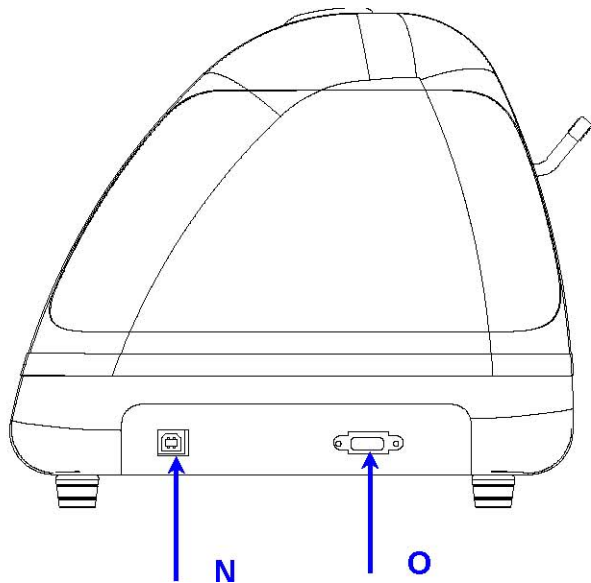
【Figure 1-2】

Object	Description
J	Grid Drum To move media back and forth in operation.

1.3.3 The Side Views



【Figure 1-3 】



[Figure 1-4 ]

Object		Description
K	AC Power Connector	To insert the AC power cord.
L	Fuse	3Amp.
M	Power Switch	To turn on or off the machine.
N	USB Connector	To connect the machine and a computer through a USB cable.
O	Serial Interface Connector	To connect the machine and a computer through a RS-232 cable.

## 2. Installation

### 2.1 Precaution

Please read below information carefully before you start installation.

#### Notice 1

- Make sure the power switch is off before installing the cutting plotter.
- Carefully handle the cutter to prevent any injuries.

#### Notice 2

##### Choosing a proper place before setting up the cutting plotter

Before installing your cutting plotter, select a suitable location, which meets the following conditions.

- The machine can be approached easily from any direction.
- Keep enough space for the machine, accessories and supplies.
- Keep the working area stable, avoiding severe vibration.
- Keep the temperature between **10 and 35°C (50-95°F)** in the workshop.
- Keep the relative humidity between **25% and 75%** in the workshop.
- Protect the machine from dust and strong air current.
- Protect the machine from direct sunlight or extremely bright lighting.

#### Notice 3. Connecting the Power Supply

Check the plug of the power cord to see if it mates with the wall outlet. If not, please contact your dealer.

- Insert the plug (male) into a grounded power outlet.
- Insert the other end (female) of power cord into the AC connector of cutting plotter.



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## 2.2 Blade Installation

Figure 2-12 is the illustration of the blade holder. Insert a blade into the bottom of the blade holder and remove the blade by pushing the pin. Make sure that your fingers are away from the blade tip.

Adjustment depth knob

Pin



Figure 2-12

Outward ring

### Step 1

Install blade (Figure 2-13).



### Step 2

Push the blade to the bottom of the blade holder (Figure 2-14).



### Step 3

Adjust the blade tip to suitable length by screwing "Blade tip adjustment screw" clockwise or count-clockwise. (Figure 2-15).



Figure 2-15

#### Tips:

"The proper length" means the blade's length is adjusted 0.1mm more than film's thickness. That is, if the thickness of film is 0.5mm, then blade's length is properly adjusted 0.6mm and it can completely cut through the film layer yet avoid penetrating the backing.

## Step 4

Insert the blade holder into tool carriage. Please note the outward ring of the holder must put into the grooves of carriage firmly (see Figure 2-16), fasten the case (Figure 2-17).



Figure 2-16



Figure 2-17

## Step 5

Use the reversing steps to remove the blade holder.

## Step 6

**Eject the blade:** Push “**Blade eject pin**” to eject blade when the blade needs to be replaced.

### Caution

The blade will lose its sharpness after a period of usage, the cutting quality be affected. By increasing the cutting force, it might do the trick. However, the blade is worn out and no longer provides a reliable cutting, you should replace a new one. The blade is consumable and must be replaced as often as necessary to maintain the cutting quality. The quality of the blade deeply affects the cutting quality. So be sure to use a high quality blade to ensure good cutting results.

### Tips - When to replace a new blade:

- ✓ If the blade is broken, you have to replace a new one.
- ✓ If cutting quality is not as good as usual, you may need to replace a new one.
- ✓ If the material cannot be cut through by higher cutting force, you may need to replace a new one.

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## 2.3 Media Loading

### 2.3.1 Loading the Sheet Media

To load the media properly, please follow the below procedures:

#### Step 1

Lift the 2 levers at the back side of cutter to raise pinch rollers (Figure 2-18).

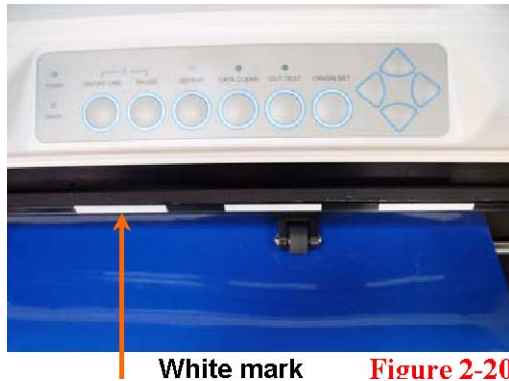
#### Step 2

Load your media on the platen and slide it under the pinch rollers from either the front side or the backside. The **alignment rulers** on the platen extension will help you to adjust the media precisely (Figure 2-19).



## Step 3

Then move the pinch rollers manually to the proper position. Be sure the pinch rollers must be positioned above the grid drum. The **white marks** on the main beam will remind you where the grid drums are (Figure 2-20).



White mark

Figure 2-20



Figure 2-21

## CAUTION!!!

- ✓ Make sure the Primary and secondary pinch rollers are set to right positions.
- ✓ Position the Primary Pinch Rollers at the right and left sides of media.
- ✓ Position the Secondary Pinch Roller at the center of media.

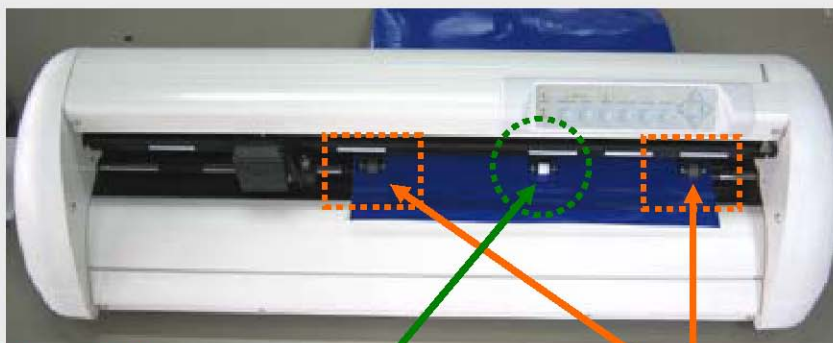


Figure 2-22

Secondary Pinch Roller

Primary Pinch Roller

(O)  
Correct



Figure 2-23

(X)  
Incorrect

## Step 4

Push the lever backward to lower down the pinch rollers (Figure 2-21).

## Step 5

After turn on the power, the tool carriage will measure the size of the media automatically. And the plotting cutter begins to work.

### Note:

- ✓ Always adjust the position with the pinch rollers raised.
- ✓ Move the pinch rollers by applying force at the rear portion of the pinch roller support.
- ✓ DO NOT move the pinch roller by holding its front rubber roller (Figure 2-24).

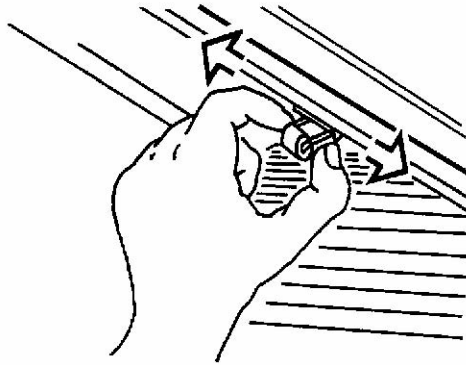


Figure 2-24

(X)Incorrect

## 2.3.2 Loading the Roll Media

You can use the desktop media support system for roll media. Please refer to Chapter 2.2.2~2.3 for hardware setup, and Chapter 2.5.1 for media loading.

## 2.4 Cable Connection

The cutting plotter communicates with a computer through **Serial port (RS-232C)**. This chapter shows you how to connect the cutting plotter to a host computer and how to set up the computer/cutting plotter interconnection.

!! **Notice:** When USB connection is enabled, serial port will be disconnected automatically.



## 2.4.1 USB Interface

Enduracut can connect to your computers USB port using a Keyspan Highspeed USB Serial Adaptor.



**USB High Speed  
Serial Adapter**

- \* Connects serial device to a USB port
- \* Microsoft signed drivers
- \* "Best in Class" compatibility

*No Serial Port? No Problem!*

USA-19HS MSRP \$39



### Caution!!

- **DO NOT** plug USB cable into Enduracut Cutter. That port is for loading firmware at the factory only.

## 2.4.2 RS-232 Interface

. Connecting to the RS-232 (Serial) Port

- 1 For IBM PC, PS/2 users or compatibles, connect the RS-232C cable to the serial connector of the assigned serial port (COM1 or COM2) of your host computer.
- 2 Set up the communication parameters (Baud Rate and Data Bits/Parity) to match the setting of software package, refer to chapter 3 – “Misc” key description.

# 3. Operation

## 3.1 The Control Panel

### 3.1.1 The Outline of control panel

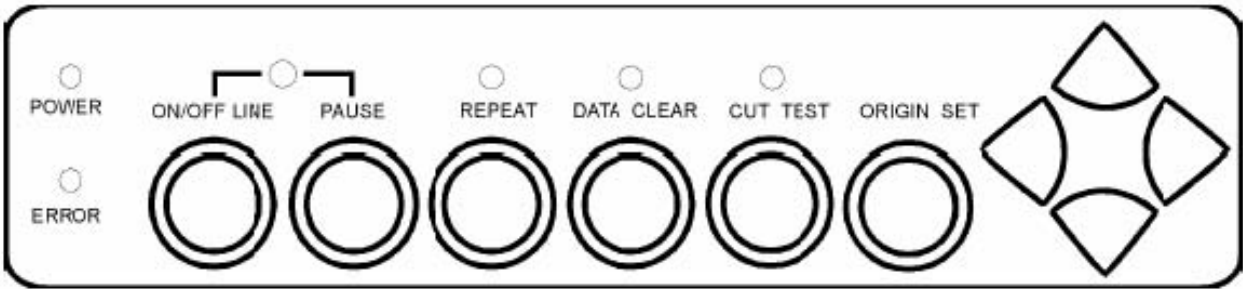


Figure 3-1

Key	Function
POWER LED	To indicate the power status ( light up: power on; light off: power off )
ERROR LED	To indicate the error status ( light up: error; light off: normal )
ON/OFF LINE	To switch modes or stop cutting job (light up: on-line; light off: off-line) While in on-line mode: only ON/OFF LINE and PAUSE keys activated While in off-line mode: the settings in VLCD can be adjusted.
PAUSE	To temporarily halt cutting process or to continue
REPEAT	To repeat last job.
DATA CLEAR	To clear up buffer memory.
CUT TEST	To perform cutting tests in different ways.
ORIGIN SET	To reset origin at a new position.
4 Arrow Keys	To move carriage position, select function, or change setting.

**Note:**

- ✓ Make sure the machine is in off-line mode to enable this function.

**Step 1** Move the carriage to a new position.

**Step 2** Press the ORIGIN SET button to reset origin.

### 3.1.3 Cut Test

**Note:**

- ✓ Make sure the machine is in off-line mode to enable this function.
- ✓ It's recommended to keep performing this function until the cutting quality meets your demand before executing the cutting job.

**Step 1** After sizing, press the ON/OFF LINE button to set as off-line mode.

**Step 2** Move the carriage to a preferred position.

**Step 3** Press CUT TEST button to perform.

### 3.1.4 Repeat

**Note:**

- ✓ Make sure the machine is in off-line mode to enable this function.

**Step 1** Press the ON/OFF LINE button to set as off-line mode.

**Step 2** Press the REPEAT button to perform re-plot function starting at the position where the carriage locates. It is also available to move carriage to a preferred position, re-set origin, and then perform this function.



### 3.2 Data Transmission

There are two options to transmit the data from the computer to the cutting plotter:

**Option 1:** With proper interface settings, the data can be transmitted from your application software package to the cutting plotters directly.

**Option 2:** Most cutting software packages are able to emulate **HP-GL** or **HP-GL/2** commands, therefore, Use DOS commands like **TYPE** or **PRINT** to output your file. As long as the file is **HP-GL** or **HP-GL/2** format, the cutting plotter can output the data precisely.

For example, a file with **PLT** extension generated by **SignPal** can be transmitted directly to the plotter at the DOS prompt, and then be cut out. Before outputting at the DOS prompt, set up a transmission protocol between your cutting plotter and computer by a DOS command, **MODE**. Make sure that your PC has the same communication protocol as the cutter. For example:

**MODE COM2: 9600, N, 8, 1, P**

**Then**, use **TYPE** command to output via **COM2** if **COM2** is the assigned output port.

**TYPE *filename* > COM2**

**Tip:** Add the **MODE** command line to your system's **AUTOEXEC.BAT** to automatically execute **MODE** command every time you want to output your data at the DOS prompt via serial connection. However, values in a **MODE** command should comply with the related requirements of your software. Refer to DOS manual for further information. Operation <sub>3-6</sub>

## 4. Basic Maintenance

This chapter explains the basic maintenance (i.e. cleaning the cutting plotter) required for the cutting plotter. Except for the steps mentioned below, all the other maintenances must be performed by a qualified service technician.

### 4.1 Cleaning the cutting plotter

In order to keep the cutting plotter under good conditions and have the best performance, you need to clean the machine properly and regularly.

#### Precaution in Cleaning



Unplug the cutting plotter before cleaning.

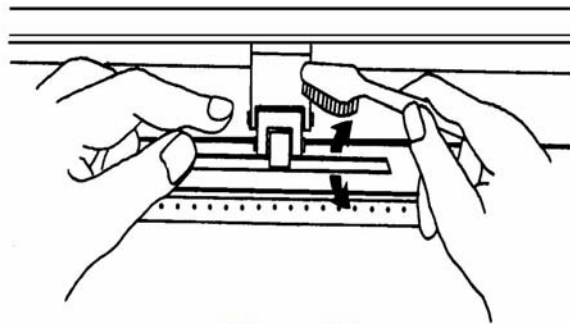
Never use **solvents, abrasive cleaners or strong detergents** for cleaning. They may damage the surface of the cutting plotter and the moving parts.

#### Recommended Methods

- . Gently wipe the cutting plotter surface with a lint-free cloth. If necessary, clean it with a water-rinsed or an alcohol-rinsed cloth. Wipe the cutting plotter to remove any residues on the cutting plotter. Finally absorb water with a soft, lint-free cloth.
- . Wipe all the dust and dirt from the tool carriage rail.
- . Use a vacuum cleaner to clean any accumulated dirt and media residue beneath the pinch roller housing.
- . Clean the platen, paper sensors and the pinch rollers with a water-rinsed cloth or alcohol-rinsed cloth. Finally absorb water with a soft, lint-free cloth.
- . Use the same method mentioned above to clean dust and dirt from the stand.

### 4.2 Cleaning the Grid Drum

- . Turn off the cutting plotter, and move the tool carriage away from the area needed to be cleaned.
- . Raise the pinch rollers and move them away from the grid drum for cleaning.
- . Use a bristle (a toothbrush is also acceptable) to remove dust from the drum surface. It needs to rotate the drum manually to clean the drum completely (Figure 5-1).



**Figure 4-1**

### **4.3 Cleaning the Pinch Rollers**

If the pinch rollers need a thorough cleaning, use a lint-free cloth or cotton swab to wipe away the accumulated dust from the rubber portion of the pinch rollers. To prevent the pinch rollers from rotating while cleaning, use your fingers to hold the pinch rollers in place.

Use a lint-free cloth or cotton swab rinsed with alcohol to remove the embedded or persistent dust.

## 5. Trouble Shooting

This chapter helps you to correct some common problems you may come across. Prior to getting into the details of this chapter, please be sure that your application environment is compatible with the cutting plotter.

### Note:

Before contacting your local dealer, please make sure that the problems are coming from your cutting plotter, not from the communication between the computer and cutting plotter or from a malfunction in your computer or software.



*Why doesn't the cutting plotter operate?*

### 5.1 What if Enduracut cannot operate?

If your cutting plotter doesn't plot, please check the following items first:

Is the power cord plugged in properly?

Is the power cord connected to the power connector properly?

Is the power switch turned on properly?

Solutions: If the POWER LED lights on, the cutting plotter should be in a normal condition. Turn off the cutting plotter and turn it on again to see if the problem still exists. If the POWER LED doesn't light, please call your local dealer to resolve this problem.







### 5.2 Light Indicators

Some of the operating problems can be identified by the lights on the control panel.

When your cutting plotter stops operating or the lights are on or flashing unexpectedly, see the following descriptions of the panel light patterns and the actions you should take.

**5.2.1 Warning Indicators**

When the ERROR LED flashes (as shown below), take the necessary actions according to the following instructions. When the problems are solved, the ERROR LED will turn off automatically. Pressing the ON/OFF LINE button can also turn off the ERROR LED.

Warning Indicators		ERROR	ON/OFF LINE	REPEAT	DATA CLEAR	CUT TEST
1	Graph was clipped		●	●	○	○
2	HPGL/2 command Error		●	○	●	○
3	Lever up or no media		●	○	○	○
4	Cannot repeat		○	●	○	○
5	Communication error		○	○	●	○
6	Width sensor error		○	○	○	●
7	Check media, drum or X motor	●	○	○	●	○



= flash



= on



= off

**Warning 1** The graph is clipped

This condition indicates that the cutting graph is bigger than the cutting area.

You can solve the problem by:

- 1 Reload a wider or longer media.
- 2 Move the pinch rollers to widen the cutting area.
- 3 Re-scale the graph to a smaller size. Then send the cutting job again from your computer to the cutting plotter.

**Warning 2** HPGL/2 command error if the cutting plotter cannot recognize the commands from your computer, please check the commands applied to your cutting plotter in the HP-GL/2 or HPGL commands. Then send the same job to the cutting plotter again.

If that doesn't solve the problem, please contact your local dealer.

**Warning 3** Lever up or no media. Check that you have lowered the lever down and make sure that you load the media before cutting.

**Warning 4** Cannot repeat cutting

There are two possibilities:

- 1 There is no data in the buffer: please send the job again from your computer;
- 2 The buffer is full: please send the same job from your computer again.

Under both conditions, press the ON/OFF LINE key to clear the warning message.

Check that the serial/USB cable has been connected to the cutting plotter and computer properly.

If so, then check whether the interface settings are correct. Check that the communication settings in your PC are the same as the ones on your cutting plotter (for example – 9600bps, no parity, 8 bits, 1 stop bit). Then, press ON/OFF Line key to switch back to On Line mode.

**Warning 6** Width sensor error

Check that the pinch rollers are positioned above the grid drum and reload the media again.

**Note:**

In order to identify the warning messages easily, please stick the warning sticker (in accessory box) on the side cover of your cutting plotter.

**5.2.2 Error Indicators**

If some mechanical problems occur during the operation, the ERROR LED will turn on. Please follow the instructions below to solve the problem. If the cutting plotter still cannot work, please contact your local dealer and tell him or her about the error indicator.

	Error Indicators	ERROR	ON/OFF LINE	REPEAT	DATA CLEAR	CUT TEST
1	SRAM error	●	●	○	○	○
2	DRAM error	●	○	●	○	○
3	Check media, drum, or X motor	●	○	○	●	○
4	Check media or Y motor	●	○	○	○	●



= flash

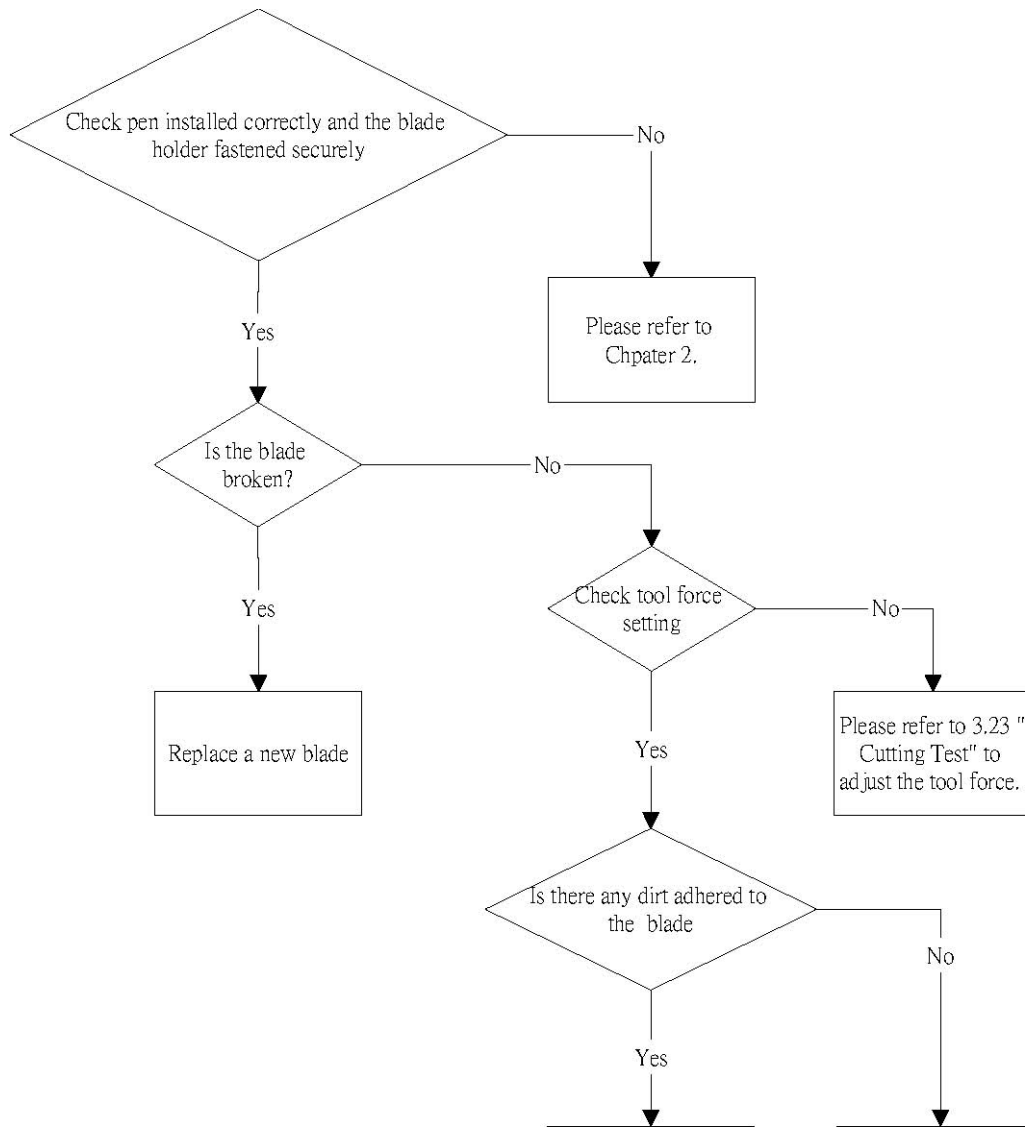
● = on

○ = off

**Error 1 and 2** Please contact your local dealer to replace SRAM or DRAM.

**Error 3** Check the media, drum or X-motor (Drum driven motor). This message indicates that there might be a problem on the **X-axis**. Please check that the drums are working normally and see that the media is well loaded. Then turn on the power and reboot the cutting plotter.

**Error 4** Check the media or Y motor (carriage driven motor). This message indicates that there might be an obstruction to the carriage relating to a problem on the **Y-axis**. Please clear the obstruction and check that the carriage can move smoothly. Then turn on the power and reboot the cutting plotter.

**5.3 Cutting Quality Problems**

Remove the blade and clean it Please contact customer service personnel for technical support

## Appendix -Enduracut Specification

Model		Enduracut
Max. Cutting Width		605mm (23.75")
Max. Media Width		719mm (28.3")
Material Thickness		0.8mm
Max. Cutting Force		250g
Max. Cutting Speed(Diagonal)		400 mm /sec
Software Resolution		0.025 mm
Repeatability		±0.1mm
Re-plot Memory		500 Kbytes
Interfaces		RS-232
Commands		HP-GL, HP-GL/2
Configurable Origin		Yes
Control Panel		6 LEDs/10 Keys
Stand		Optional
<b>Operation Environment</b>	<b>Temperature</b>	10°C~35°C / 50°F~95°F
	<b>Humidity</b>	25% ~ 75%

➤ The above specification is subject to change without prior notice.